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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Korea

SUBJECT Construction of Patrol Vessels for North
Korean Coast Guard

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1. In early April 1949, the Kalpo-ri (葛浦里) yards of the Wonsan Ship-building Company completed two all-metal patrol vessels of approximately 200 tons each for the North Korean Coast Guard.* Construction was begun on the two ships in July 1948. A launching ceremony was held at the yard on 1 May 1949, in the presence of Pak Il-u (朴一宇), Minister of Internal Affairs. On the following day, the two ships were turned over to the Sokcho (束草) battalion of the Coast Guard in Yangyang (128-38, 38-04) County (Gun) and since that date have patrolled the waters between Yangyang and Wonsan.

2. The Kalpo-ri yard was formerly devoted mostly to repairing fishing vessels and other small craft. Under government management since 1946, it now employs about 850 laborers, including a Japanese technician, Narita Kanji (成田寛次), who has been with the yard for over ten years.

Comment: [redacted] construction of 200-ton wooden ships at Wonsan and steel ships of up to 300 tons at Chinnampo.

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